



The Southwester

www.swdc.org

Serving the Southwest and Capitol Riverfront Communities

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August 2010

Circulation 12,000

FREE

Published by The Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, Inc. —a 501(c) (3) charitable and educational corporation. Send messages to thesouthwester@yahoo.com

Hogates' Building Soon to be Southwest History



The H2O/Hogates building, here seen from the Washington Channel, will be torn down in the next two months.

By The Southwester Staff

The huge building on Water Street is soon to be the first casualty of future redevelopment. Much to the surprise of many local leaders, the Deputy Mayor's Office for Planning and Economic Development recently announced that the former H2O/Hogates building will be razed by late October. David Roberts, Project Manager at the Deputy Mayor's Office, told The Southwester that the city will host a "demolition demonstration" event on Monday, August 16 at 3:30 p.m., as the first wrecking ball strikes the edifice.

The demolition schedule includes the required rodent control, and is due to be completed by the end of October. The plan

includes backfill to grade of the underlying garage as well as some light landscaping on the property. There is also a proposal to repair the lighting in the area along the seawall. Roberts calls the razing "a positive beginning step towards redevelopment."

Hogates owners recently vacated the building, which they had leased from the city since last summer.

"I am sure many Southwest residents feel nostalgic for the original Hogates with their famous rum buns and might even feel some attachment to the venue," said ANC Commissioner Jane Jorgensen in response to the news, "however, many people are looking forward to the new Southwest Waterfront Development."

Developers Announce Plans for Temporary Waterfront Park

By The Southwester Staff

Linor Bacon, partner in the Hoffman-Struever Waterfront (HSW) redevelopment team, brought news to The Washington Waterfront Association's August meeting of a new initiative to revitalize the Seventh Street Waterfront Park in anticipation of the major multiphase project to renew the area.

Recently, Madison Marquette became a partner in HSW and is joining efforts with the city to bring life to the pocket park with a plan similar to "Paris Plage", complete with a "beach" area with chairs and tables. The family friendly area is aimed at bringing out local residents and creating a positive image for future uses of the area.

The master plan for redevelopment is entering the final design and Planned Unit Development (PUD) stage, with significant community input. A public meeting on the plan is anticipated for September.

Monty Hoffman, PN Hoffman, Managing Member of Hoffman-Struever Waterfront, said "We are thrilled that Madison Marquette has joined our team. They bring strong development experience to our partnership, as well as retail expertise and equity. We are excited to be moving forward with our Master Development planning process that will include significant community involvement, and to programming the Seventh Street Park, in partnership with the District, this Fall."

The Seventh Street Park initiative is slated to open around Labor Day with an event on September 10, which coincides with the 10th anniversary of the Anacostia Waterfront Initiative (AWI). According to the District's website, the AWI "created an unprecedented partnership between the federal and District governments to transform the Anacostia River from the city's forgotten river to a gem that could rival any urban waterfront in the world."



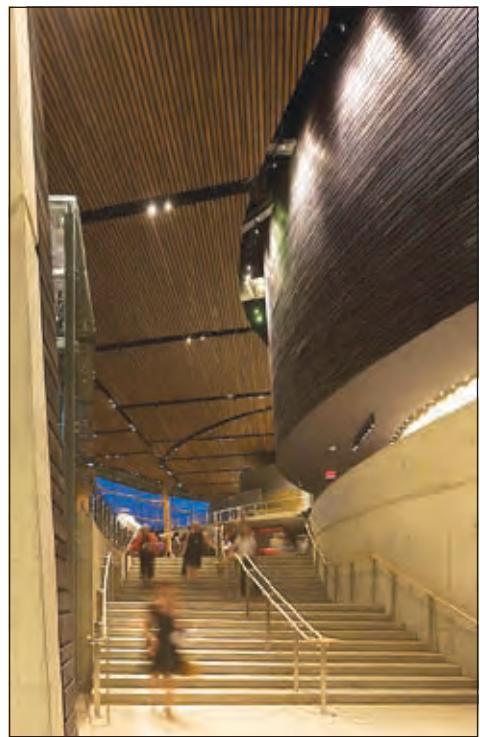
A view of the park at Seventh and Water streets in its current condition, ready for transformation by the Hoffman Struever Waterfront redevelopment team.

A Happy 60th Anniversary to Arena Stage

By The Southwester Staff

Monday, August 16 signals Arena Stage's 60th Anniversary, and the Meade Center for American Theater will host a homecoming ceremony with a mayoral press conference. Mayor Adrian Fenty will address the event participants along with Representative Eleanor Holmes Norton. The event will take place on the sidewalk along Sixth Street outside the main entrance to the new theater.

Arena Stage is celebrating for other reasons besides its anniversary date. John and Leo Manzari, brother dancers from Southwest who performed in Arena's production of Sophisticated Ladies, danced as guests on Fox Television's *So You Think You Can Dance* on August 12. They received a special invitation from the show's producer, Nigel Lythgoe, who also produces *American Idol*.



Arena Stage's interior grand staircase. Photo courtesy of Arena Stage.

move with no operations stoppage. Their new home is a stunning piece of architecture whose completion caps off a 10 year odyssey of planning and programming, according to Desirée Urquhart, Director of Government and Community Relations for the Mead Center.

Arena Stage at the Meade Center for the American Theater is also being rebranded. Their new colors, red, white and blue, signify their commitment to producing the very best of American stage art.

Their new theater season will kick off with *Oklahoma!* at the Fichandler on October 23.

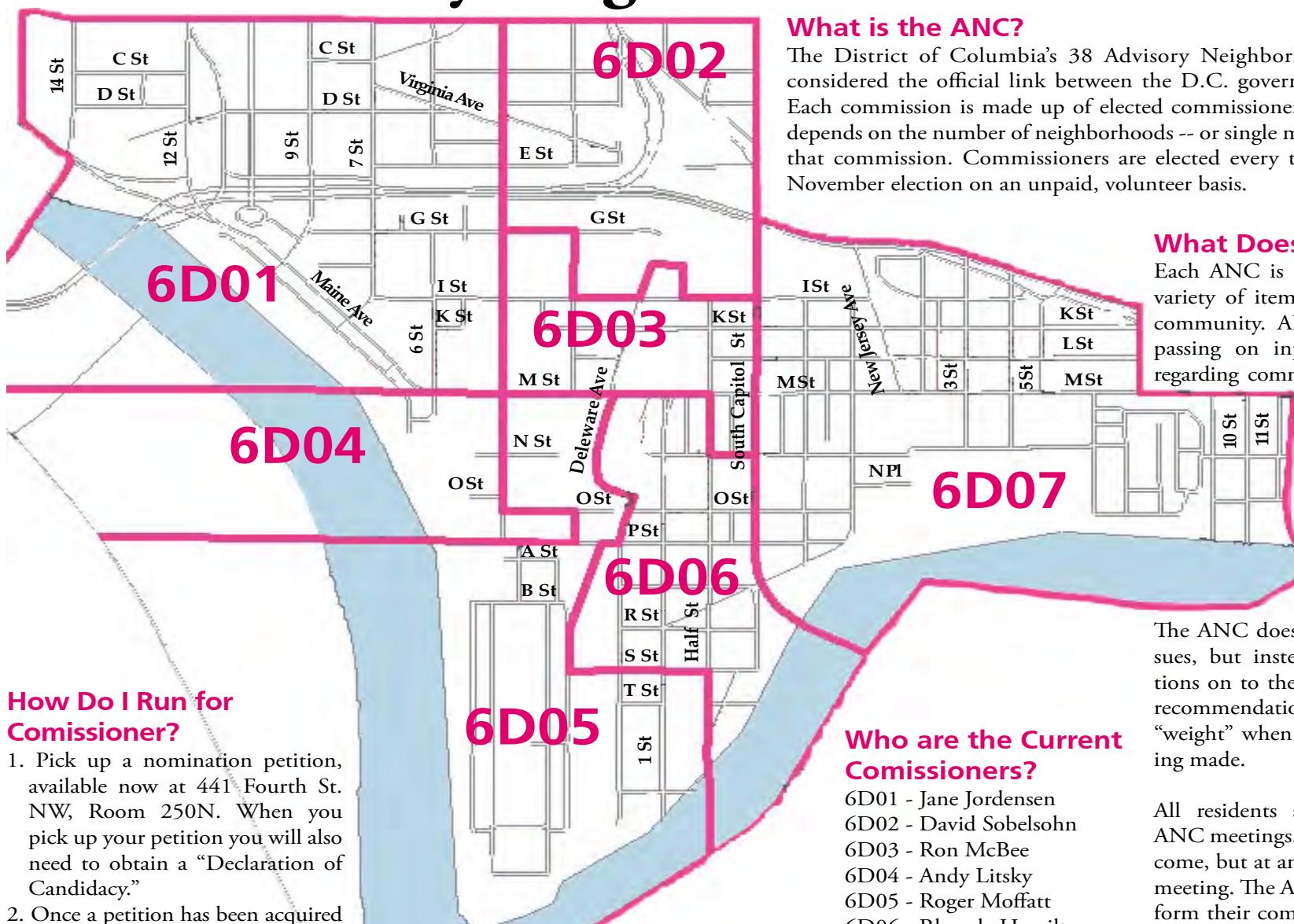
Arena is also planning for their big homecoming celebration for Southwest and the entire city. It will take place on Saturday, October 23 from noon to 6 p.m. The event will be a street party type celebration with an outdoor stage, roaming street performances, food vendors, plenty of music and dance, and the grand ribbon cutting ceremony. There will be timed tickets available online before the event date for tours of the inside of the complex.

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Local Government and Organizations

Advisory Neighborhood Commission



How Do I Run for Commissioner?

1. Pick up a nomination petition, available now at 441 Fourth St. NW, Room 250N. When you pick up your petition you will also need to obtain a "Declaration of Candidacy."
2. Once a petition has been acquired you must gather the signatures of at least 25 registered voters who live in your single-member district.
3. Return your petition by close-of-business September 3, 2010.

To qualify for candidacy you must be a registered DC voter and have lived in your single-member district for 60 days prior to submitting your petition.

The Southwester

Circulation – 12,000

Contact The Southwester by e-mail at thesouthwester@yahoo.com for questions and to send materials and advertisements.

Advertisers will be invoiced for payment. Remittance address for ad payments only is:

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What is the ANC?

The District of Columbia's 38 Advisory Neighborhood Commissions are considered the official link between the D.C. government and its residents. Each commission is made up of elected commissioners, the number of which depends on the number of neighborhoods -- or single member districts -- within that commission. Commissioners are elected every two years in the general November election on an unpaid, volunteer basis.

What Does the ANC Do?

Each ANC is tasked with considering a variety of items directly affecting their community. ANCs are responsible for passing on input to the government regarding community issues such as the District's annual budget, economic development, liquor licenses, parking, police protection, recreation, sanitation, street improvements, traffic, trash collection and zoning.

The ANC does not decide on these issues, but instead passes recommendations on to the DC government. These recommendations are then given great "weight" when decisions are in fact being made.

All residents are welcome to attend ANC meetings. Participation is also welcome, but at an allotted time within the meeting. The ANC urges residents to inform their commissioner of their intent to speak prior to a meeting so that the resident may be included on an agenda.

Who are the Current Commissioners?

6D01 - Jane Jordensen
6D02 - David Sobelsohn
6D03 - Ron McBee
6D04 - Andy Litsky
6D05 - Roger Moffatt
6D06 - Rhonda Hamilton
6D07 - Robert Siegel

How Do I Know Which Single-Member District I Live In?

To determine which single-member district you live in, find your residence on the accompanying map, or visit the DC Citizen Atlas at citizenatlas.dc.gov/atlasapps/reporthometab.aspx. Type your address into the search box and find your single-member district in the "2002 Single Member District Field." For more information visit www.anc.dc.gov.

Text and graphics by Erin Fitzgerald

The Alcohol Beverage Control Committee

ANC 6D has three standing committees. By far the most active and public of the three is the Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) Committee. While the official description of the ABC Committee is to "consider issues relating to liquor licenses", the reality is much more complicated.

The ABC Committee is responsible, on behalf of the ANC, for the entire process of developing contacts with applicants for liquor licenses. The committee engages prospective licensees, discussing plans for their establishment, and working with them to develop agreements that reflect the needs of the community, and also explaining and incorporating requirements in D.C. law, primarily Title 25 which controls liquor licenses.

For establishments that have licenses, the committee works to educate and enforce the agreements and identify issues that might be of concern to the neighborhood as well as the

Alcoholic Beverage Regulatory Agency (ABRA) of the District government. For issues or incidents that appear to be of concern, the committee works with the licensee, ABRA staff, and appropriate Metropolitan Police Department representatives.

Agreements are made to uphold neighborhood expectations, particularly with regard to peace, order, and quiet; property values; and parking issues—the three reasons which may trigger a protest by the ANC. Recommendations of the committee must receive ANC approval before going into effect.

The committee consists of seven members, one from each Single Member District, appointed by the commissioner representing that district. Committee members' terms shall end at the end of the term for which the appointing commissioner was elected. The current chair of the ABC Committee is Coralie Farlee, who volunteers many hours to assure that the needs

of the community are met and to fulfill the responsibilities of the committee.

ANC Single member districts are represented on the ABC Committee as follows: ANC 6D01: Susan Carpenter; ANC 6D02: Cara Shockley; ANC 6D03: Vacant; ANC 6D04: No appointment; ANC 6D05: Coralie Farlee; ANC 6D06: Gloria Hamilton; ANC 6D07: Christopher Thiemann.

Correction

Last issue's article on St. Augustine's July Grounds for Discussion was missing the byline. The author was Elaine Graves.

SW Resident Thelma Jones Honored with Mayor's 2010 Community Service Award for Lifetime Achievement

By Vandana Sareen

Congratulations to long-time resident Thelma Jones, who received the 2010 Mayor's Community Service Award for a District resident who has performed exemplary lifetime community service. While the award requires recipients to have performed 4,000 hours of service in the District, Thelma has actually given closer to 40,000 hours of her time. She believes she's donated nearly 4,000 hours to civic work just in the five years since she retired from her 33-year career at the World Bank. Mayor Adrian Fenty presented the award to Thelma in a ceremony at the Wilson Building on August 4, where Thelma rushed from a SW youth special tour of the World Bank that she was leading and coordinating. The award is organized by SERVE DC, the Mayor's Office on



Mayor Adrian Fenty and Councilmember Tommy Wells pose with Telma Jones for a congratulatory photo. Photo by Perry Klein.

Volunteerism.

The primary avenue for Thelma's volunteering has been her work with the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (SWNA). She recently retired from its board after 28 years of service, including as board president as well as other leadership roles. The Southwest Neighborhood Assembly is a vibrant nonprofit focused on improving the quality of life for residents of Southwest D.C. and providing recreation, cultural, and employment opportunities for children and youth. Thelma estimates that she has written several hundred articles for *The Southwester*, the community newspaper created by SWNA. Thelma has also served on a variety of other boards of directors of local and national organizations focused on education,

Continued on Page 5

AUGUST

MON., 16 10:45 a.m. Mayor's Press Conference at Arena Stage, Sixth and Maine Ave., along the Sixth St. side

3:30 P.M. "Demolition Demonstration" event at old Hogates, 800 Water St., SW

TUES., 17 7:30 p.m. The Southwest Chamber Music Players present "THE EYES HAVE IT!" an all-vocal program emphasizing what we see. Free; Donations gratefully appreciated. St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 600 M St. Contact David Ehrlich, 202/484-6354. www.southwestchamberplayers.org

THUR., 19 9 a.m. Chapter day of service at Food and Friends in Northeast D.C., AARP--Southwest Waterfront, Chapter 4751.

SAT., 21 7 p.m. First Annual Building Fund Gospel Dinner Concert presented by Affairs with Win-kl'r and Pastor William and First Lady Judy Harrison. The Zealia Center, 565 Ritchie Road, Capitol Heights, Md. 20743. \$30 per person, \$20 seniors, age 60 and older, \$15 children, age 13 and younger. Honorees of the Evening: Pastor William Harrison, Christein Armstrong, Sister Gloria Burks, Helen Chaise, Audrey M. Moten, Pastor and Minister Rainier, and Roland Joseph Winkler, Jr. Contact Win-kl'r, 202-316-6917. www.southwestchamberplayers.org

11 A.M. - 3 P.M. "Healthcare On Wheels" Health Fair free annual community event features "mobile" medical clinics to increase awareness of and access to community health resources, education, insurance education, physical, mental, and nutritional health and safety information. Live music, games, and food will be available. All are welcome. Grounds of King Greenleaf Recreation Center, 201 N St. SW. 202-664-9190.

SUN., 22 Noon. Meet the Artist Reception. Rev. Rusty Lynn, a Parish Associate at Falls Church Presbyterian, produced art work on display in sanctuary, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 I St., SW.

MON., 23 Nationals Home Game 7:05 p.m.

TUES., 24 Nationals Home Game 7:05 p.m. Free T-Shirt for first 10,000 fans.

WED., 25 Nationals Home Game 7:05 p.m.

THUR., 26 Nationals Home Game 7:05 p.m. Ladies Night.

FRI., 27 Nationals Home Game 7:05 p.m. Fireworks after the game.

SAT., 28 Nationals Home Game 7:05 p.m. Ivan "Pudge" Rodriguez Fan Choice Bobble-head for first 15,000 fans.

7 P.M. First Annual Senior Appreciation Din-

Community Calendar

ner Concert presented by Affairs with Win-kl'r and Second Union Baptist Church. The Zealia Center, 565 Ritchie Road, Capitol Heights, Md. 20743. \$30 per person, \$20 seniors, age 60 and older, \$15 children, age 13 and younger. Honorees of the Evening: Pastor William Harrison, Christein Armstrong, Sister Gloria Burks, Helen Chaise, Audrey M. Moten, Pastor and Minister Rainier, and Roland Joseph Winkler, Jr. Contact Win-kl'r, 202-316-6917.

1 P.M. - 3 P.M. "Thinking about Jazz"-a bi-monthly program to go deeper into the world of DC jazz. Representatives and audio-visual samples from the Felix Grant Archives at UDC. Refreshments and door prizes. Free. Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 I St., SW.

SUN., 29 Nationals Home Game 1:35 p.m. Family Fun Day.

TUE., 31 6:30 p.m. Primary Candidate Forum with candidates for Mayor, Council Chair and City Council, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 I St., SW. or donating items, call 202-484-3184.

SEPTEMBER

WED., 1 7 p.m. Saxophonist Connie Frigo and Pianist Judith Bible Showcase Classical Saxophone Music. Coffee and desserts, followed by audience Q & A with Michael Mack. Free, donations accepted for artists' honorarium. St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 600 M St., SW. 202-554-3222 or rector@staugustinesdc.org.

7 P.M. Alcohol Beverage Control Committee (ABC Committee), ANC6D. Applications for liquor licenses, renewals, changes, special short-term/temporary licenses, other related issues. King Greenleaf Recreation Center, 201 N Street, SW. Contact Coralie Farlee, Chair, 554-4407, cfarlee@mindspring.com for specific agenda, to be added to mailing list, and for other information.

FRI., 3 Last day to return Petition for Nomination for ANC election. Return to 441 Fourth St., NW, Room 250N.

6:30 P.M. St. Augustine's Family Game Night, 6:30 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. games. Bring a potluck dish to share. Board and card games provided, but feel free to bring own games. St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 600 M Street, SW. 202-554-3222 or rector@staugustinesdc.org.

SAT., 4 Nationals Home Game 7:05 p.m.

SUN., 5 Nationals Home Game 7:05 p.m. Family Fun Day.

MON., 6 Nationals Home Game 1:35 p.m.

TUES., 7 Nationals Home Game 7:05 p.m.

WED., 8 Nationals Home Game 12:35 p.m.

7:30 P.M. Second Union Baptist Church's Fall Revival, 1107 Delaware Ave., SW, 202-484-7012.

THUR., 9 7:30 p.m. Second Union Baptist Church's Fall Revival, 1107 Delaware Ave., SW, 202-484-7012.

FRI., 10 Nationals Home Game 7:05 p.m. Fireworks after the game.

YARDS PARK OPENING, SE Waterfront behind Dept. of Transportation. All-day celebrations. Specific times to be announced.

7:30 P.M. Second Union Baptist Church's Fall Revival, 1107 Delaware Ave., SW, 202-484-7012.

SAT., 11 Nationals Home Game 1:35 p.m.

YARDS PARK OPENING, SE Waterfront behind Dept. of Transportation.

9 A.M.-3 P.M. St. Augustine's Episcopal Church's annual End of Summer Fair, 600 M St., SW.

SUN., 12 Nationals Home Game 1:35 p.m. Family Fun Day.

YARDS PARK OPENING, SE Waterfront behind Dept. of Transportation.

3:30 P.M. Homecoming, Guest Speaker to be announced. Second Union Baptist Church's Fall Revival, 1107 Delaware Ave., SW, 202-484-7012.

MON., 13 7:00 p.m. ANC Monthly Business Meeting, St. Augustine's Church, 400 I St., SW.

WEEKLY, BIWEEKLY

THE KIWANIS CLUB of Southwest Waterfront meets year-round at Christ United Methodist Church, 900 Fourth St. SW, every first and third Monday from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

THE SOUTH WASHINGTON West of the River Fatherhood program will start their "Quenching the Father Thirst" sessions at St. Augustine Church, 600 M St. SW on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. The sessions provide a place for dads to talk, share and learn to improve relations with their wives and children. For more information call Alphonso Coles at 202-870-1885.

SOUTHWEST SEWING GROUP, Mondays, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 600 M St. SW, contact Willie Mae Stukes, Sewing teacher, 301-445-1792. Open

to all interested in working on their own sewing projects and updating their hand and/or machine sewing skills. Meets every Monday, except for July and August.

SOUTHWEST RENEWAL AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) group, Mondays, 8:30 p.m., St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 600 M St. SW, 202-554-3222.

SW FREEWAY NA (Narcotics Anonymous) group, Wednesdays, 7 p.m. - 8 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 I St. SW, 202-484-7700.

AARP-SOUTHWEST WATERFRONT, CHAPTER 4751 meets the third Wednesday of each month, except for June, July and August. River Park Mutual Homes Inc., Community room, 1311 Delaware Ave. SW. Founded in 1958, AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan membership organization that helps people 50 and over improve the quality of their lives. For further information, contact Chapter President Elger Offutt, ee.offutt@comcast.net or 202-285-4677.

HAND DANCING CLASSES, (jitter bug, lindy hop). Saturdays, 12 noon-1 p.m. Classes by Markus Smith of Swing Anatomy Dance. \$10/class for adults, \$5/class for children ages 8-17. Christ United Methodist Community room off Wesley Place, SW.

CHESS CLUB in the main room of the SW Library, 900 Wesley Place, every Weds 7-9 p.m., for all levels, even beginners

BLUES MONDAYS, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Various blues musicians and singers featured each Monday. \$5, food for sale.

WELLNESS WEDNESDAYS, 4 p.m. Seated Yoga and Healing Sessions (Pamela Wilson and Riva Wine); 5:30 p.m. Laughter Yoga (Claire Trivedi), and 7 p.m., Samoorna Yoga (Alex Rosen). Free, donations welcome.

FRIDAYS, JAZZ NIGHT in SW, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Various jazz musicians and singers featured each Friday. \$5, food for sale.

FARMERS MARKETS are open for business at three locations in the Southwest/Capitol Riverfront area. FRESHFARM Market is located at Health & Human Services headquarters at 200 Independence Ave. SW and is open on Wednesdays through the end of October from 2:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. The Capitol Riverfront Farmers Market takes place on Thursdays through the end of October at New Jersey Avenue SE and M Street SE from 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. The USDA Farmers Market is located on 12th Street SW and Independence Ave. SW and is open on Fridays through the end of October from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Real Estate and Development

Daily Developments

By Glenn Favreau



Artist rendering for the proposed C Hostel & Hotel on Buzzards Point.



Water sprays installed in the pavement of the Waterfront Metro Plaza.

ity still has 400,000 square feet of office space available for lease. David Nassif Associates completed the project and began offering leases for the space in April 2009.

Sources have informed this newspaper that the banking space available at Waterfront Station on Fourth Street has been leased to TD Bank. The Toronto-Dominion Bank is the second largest bank in Canada, and has more than 1,000 branches in the eastern United States. TD Bank is growing quickly in the District, spurred on by

friendly customer service and advertising being open seven days a week. Bank of America will remain in its temporary trailer on M Street at least until the expiration of its lease in December, 2012.

The D.C. Department of Real Estate Services announced that financing has been secured for the redevelopment of the old Washington Star printing plant at 225 Virginia Avenue, SE. The City purchased the property last year. Construction will begin in November, 2010 and will continue for 15 months. According to the Department's press release, "the new building will be LEED Silver certified and include a ground floor public gallery to showcase the vast

art collection of the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities. Other office tenants will include the Child and Family Services Agency and the Office of the Chief Technology Officer."

Southwest has a new restaurant: Lucky Kabob, next door to Shulman Liquors at 1548 First Street, opened for business on August 4. The Indian restaurant offers an all day buffet and a broad Indian menu as well as many subs, sandwiches, and salads. Open for breakfast at 7:30 a.m. on weekdays (9 a.m. on Saturdays, and 10 a.m. on Sundays), Lucky Kabob offers delivery and takeout as well as catering. There is plenty of room to eat in, too.

The Waterfront Metro Plaza now has spray park type water features. The newly installed spray pads can provide a ground base spray of water which quickly drains away at the base, preventing any standing water accumulation. Several have been installed in the plaza in groups of two or three. The features have not yet been activated, but when they are, they will provide movement and sound which will enhance the space without the public hazards associated with standing water.

The first renderings of the proposed "C Hostel & Hotel, to be located at 129 Q Street SW, on Buzzards Point, were presented to the District's Zoning Commission on July 29th. The planned six story, 73,975 square foot edifice will be C-shaped and provide areas segregated by gender as well as traditional hotel rooms for a total of about 500 beds. The \$28 million price tag will have to overcome lenders fears of the nearly forgotten area but the developers hope to deliver the finished construction in two years. Several local bloggers have referred to the proposed design as "futuristic."



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A view of Capitol Riverfront's Yards Park. Photo courtesy of Capitol Riverfront Bid.

Yards Park to Open September 10

By Erin Fitzgerald

The new Yards Park, tucked in behind the new Department of Transportation in Southeast, will soon be opening to the public, according to the Capitol Riverfront BID. The grand opening of the park, which is located at 10 Water St. along the Anacostia River, will be held the weekend of September 10 concluding on Sunday. The 5.5-acre park will host a celebration of music, food and drink; fitness classes; and children's activities. This past week, workers laid

sod and installed lights and benches. According to the Capital Riverfront BID, developers will lay cement for a pavilion and install a 60-foot light tower in the coming week.

The park is a joint private/public initiative by Forest City Developers and the District of Columbia and is part of a broader 42-acre, mixed-use, waterfront project known as The Yards. The Yards Park will complement the smaller Diamond Teague Park to the east which opened earlier this year.

SW Enjoys America's Night Out Against Crime

By Thelma D. Jones

More than 200 neighbors, police officers, and other community leaders attended the First District America's Night Out Against Crime at Landsburg Park on Delaware Avenue, SW. The event was part of the annual National Night Out (NNO) which is held annually in all seven districts and throughout the

U.S. Participants had the opportunity to meet members of our Police Department, learn safety tips, mingle with neighbors and get information on how to make the Southwest community even better. The event kicked off with a USAO Court Report Workshop where information was given on the Orange Hat Patrol/Neighborhood Watch while neighbors enjoyed food, fun, music and

blow balloons for the children.

National Night Out is an annual event, sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch, which takes place on the first Tuesday in August. All seven police districts held scheduled NNO events during the late afternoon and evening hours. Each year, the Metropolitan Police Department actively participates in NNO by rallying community members throughout the District of Columbia to join with neighbors and police officers in their Police Service Areas to be a part of this annual event. Enjoying the activities, First District Commander David Kamperin was mingling with the neighbors and talking about the importance of the event: "National Night Out is a great opportunity for the community and police to celebrate successes of the past and to continue to build upon these strengths, making the community a safer place to live, work and visit. It highlights the importance of the community and police working together to address crime and solve problems."

NNO is designed to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs;
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and
- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

The NNO campaign involves citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses,

neighborhood organizations and local officials from 9,500 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities and military bases worldwide. The Southwest community continues to welcome this annual event and the opportunity to meet with the members of our Police Department in a positive manner.



Members of the National Guard pose with local youth at Night Out Against Crime while encouraging positive values.

"Healthcare On Wheels" Health Fair On Saturday, August 21

August 21, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. on the grounds of the King Greenleaf Recreation Center. This free annual community event features "mobile" medical clinics to increase awareness of and access to community health resources, education, insurance education, physical, mental, and nutritional health and safety

information. Live music, games, and food will be available. All are welcome to this event organized by the South Washington West of the River Family Strengthening Collaborative & Georgetown University Hospital KIDS Mobile Medical Clinic, 201 N St. SW, 202-664-9190.

Jones

From p. 3

civic engagement, and strengthening the African American community. A breast cancer survivor and a certified breast health educator with the American Cancer Society, Thelma has also coordinated breast cancer education efforts and has most recently begun a cancer support group in the community, especially focusing on African American women.

Thelma's professional life and civic activism intersected when she helped create a youth jobs program at the World Bank, which was modeled after SWNA's jobs program. She was also one of the founding organizers of the World Bank's Community Outreach Program, as well as a founding member of the Black Philanthropic Alliance and Black Benefactors.

As a single mother, she has committed to the PTAs, and has lead the creation and delivery of a number of programs for the youth in the SW community over the years through SWNA such as the "Computer-for-Kids" computer training

program, the Photography classes, as well as Safe Sitter classes in collaboration with Eugenia Norde, which trains adolescents ages 11-13 to be effective child sitters for their siblings and other children. The computer program "graduate" receives a refurbished computer for their home, with the understanding they will teach other household members the skills they have learned in the program and participate in a periodic survey. The program has been made possible by coordination of various community partners from the private sector as well the resident councils, who were brought together by Thelma.

Thelma continues to utilize her daily life, its challenges and opportunities to serve and reach out to the broader community. She is a tireless role model, and the community acknowledges and applauds not only her lifetime achievement award but also the achievements her service has made possible for others in the community, especially the youth.

Thanks to the Black Philanthropic Alliance for much of the information in this article.

Allen A. Flood, M.D.

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How to Save What's There or Begin to Prepare

By Matthew Roberts

A long summer of endless scorching temperatures may mean dry plants for city gardeners. August is the time to start thinking about last efforts to revive your plants or better options for next year. If your plants are in need of some extra care there are a variety of watering options available.

For larger plants such as trees and shrubs, a "gator" is available for purchase. These devices are often cone-shaped. You fill it with water once a week and the gator slowly releases water to the plant, allowing for steady watering. For a good example, take a look at the trees at Amidon-Bowen elementary.

Another option is a sprinkler hose. These hoses are lined with small allows. When turned on the hoses release water through these holes, evenly watering grounds. The easiest option with these hoses is to attach a timer to the faucet set for 30 minutes a day at a low-heat time, such as early morning or late afternoon.

For both ground plants and container gardens, you have the option of an irrigation kit. These are connected to outside faucets and run to certain spots in your garden. Thin tubing will hide under mulch or ground covering, or hang over pots.

Some great options for potted plants include the "Mr. Evergreen" and water globes. The first option is a fake bottle cap with extender tube. You screw the cap into a bottle, like a liter soda bottle, and cut the bottom off the bottle. You hang the bottle upside down and fill every 3 to 4 days. With water globes, sold at many stores, make sure you buy one with a reservoir big enough and spout long enough for the pot you are using.

If your plants are unsalvageable, or you are just looking forward to next year's planting, it's a good idea to take a look at drought resistant plants that will survive the Washington D.C. heat.

If you are looking for a drought-resistant tree, your best options are the Trident Maple, Hawthorn, Linden, or Hornbeam. Hawthorn trees provide color year round. They sport light flowers in the spring, green leaves that turn to yellow in the fall, and red berries in the winter. These trees can be seen in the median of Maine



The dramatic Smoke Bush.

Ave., SW.

Some great drought-resistant shrubs include the Smoke Bush, Lilac, and native Sumac. The Sumac is a new cultivar — a plant bred for specific characteristic. Varieties include the Fragrant Sumac and Tiger-Eye.

For those who are sticking with potted plants, an herb garden is always a good option in this heat. For example, Thyme, Lavender and Rosemary are all drought resistant and great in the kitchen. Perennials such as Echinacea (Cone Flower), Rudbeckia (Black-Eyed Susan) and Phlox are also drought resistant.

There are annuals that are commonly seen in the area due to their ability withstand high temperatures. Marigolds will continue to bloom despite high heat and look great with Pennisetum Rubrum (Red Fountain Grass), another drought-resistant plant. Geraniums are also great for hotter climates. This is why they are often seen in abundance in Southern Italy. If they can make it there, you can plant them here. So whether you are salvaging what's left or preparing for next spring, there are lots of options to cultivate a beautiful and long-lasting garden.

Matthew Roberts is a master gardener at Gingko Gardens, 911 11th Street Southeast



Drought resistant marigolds provide constant summer color.



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Buyboats Come to Waterfront

By The Southwester Staff

The Chesapeake Bay Buyboat Association teamed up with Living Classrooms of the National Capital Region and The Gangplank Marina to celebrate the Buyboat and local oysters this past August 4.

The buyboat was used to haul seafood and cargo along the Chesapeake Bay before the construction of many of the current day bridges which connect the area. Only about 30 of these oyster buyboats still sail the bay.

The boat docked at The Gangplank Marina and provided a oyster reception for invitees from the community. The Bill Davis Trio provided music. Cantina Marina had its famous crab cakes on hand to the delight of the guests.

This was one of the many opportunities provided by The Gangplank Marina to educate the community on our riverfront history and maritime traditions. Jay Nickerson, marina manager, hosted the event. He is a dedicated member of our community and also serves as president of The Washington Waterfront Association.



Chef Nicolas shucks oysters for guests on The Gangplank Marina barge.

Arts and Culture

Saxophonist Connie Frigo and Pianist Judith Bible Showcase Classical Saxophone Music

By Elaine Graves

St. Augustine's Art & Spirit Coffeehouse presents saxophonist Connie Frigo and pianist Judith Bible playing classical saxophone music on Wednesday, September 1, 7 p.m. at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 600 M Street, S.W. The free evening includes coffee and desserts, followed by a Q & A with the audience, facilitated by Michael Mack, an interdisciplinary artist and thinker.

According to Frigo, "most people associate the saxophone with jazz or rock music. However, what many don't realize is that the saxophone was invented as a classical instrument in the 1840s and designed to bridge the gap of sound between the brass instruments and woodwind instruments in the orchestra. The saxophone is one of the most versatile instruments; many liken its depth of expression to the human voice."

The concert will also feature saxophonist Nicole Tallon, a senior music performance major and one of Frigo's students at the University of Maryland in College Park.

Frigo met pianist Judith Bible in 2005 during her first year of teaching at the University of Tennessee (UT). Bible had also just moved to Knoxville and immediately begun accompanying faculty and student performances at the UT School of

Music. Shortly after they met, Bible became the primary pianist for Frigo's students.

Bible is flying to Washington, D.C. from Knoxville to collaborate with Frigo just for this event.

Connie Frigo, a native of Endicott,

N.Y., is in her seventh season as the baritone saxophonist with the New Century Saxophone Quartet, a pioneering and versatile chamber ensemble which tours nationally and has released seven recordings to date.

Frigo spent six years as a member of the premiere U.S. Navy Band, Washington, D.C. Through a Fulbright grant to the Netherlands in 2001, she became the first American to study fulltime with world-renown Dutch saxophonist Arno Bornkamp.

After teaching saxophone for four years at the University of Tennessee, Frigo accepted



Connie Frigo and her saxophone.



Pianist Judith Bible

a position in fall 2009 at the University of Maryland where she teaches a small, select studio of undergraduate and graduate saxophone students. She has also served on the faculties of Ithaca College and the Uni-

colleagues in performance. In Portland, Maine, she was the pianist and musical coach for the PORTopera Maine Emerging Artist program (PORTopera's young artist program), and was the keyboard player for the Atlantic Chamber Orchestra. In addition to her piano work, she served as chorus master for PORTopera; as director of the Portland Community Chorus and as director of the Portland Symphony's Magic of Christmas Chorus.

Bible received a Bachelor's degree in Music Education with Honors from the University of Colorado, and a Masters of Music in Piano Accompanying from the University of Southern California, where she studied with the esteemed Gwendolyn Koldofsky.

The Southwest Episcopal Church's Art & Spirit Coffeehouse series opens on the first Wednesday of each month to showcase local artists in their various media as they perform and share how their faith, art and social worldview intersect, according to the Rev. Martha Clark, Priest-in-Charge at St. Augustine's. Donations will be accepted to help provide honorariums for the guest artists. Contact rector@staugustinesdc.org, 202-554-3222 or visit www.staugustinesdc.org for further information.

Southwest and Southeast Youth Continue to Learn Media Arts and Life Skills at Summer JumpStart Media Projects

By Elaine Graves

Michael Mack, a Southwest resident and an actor (Commander Sirol in "Star Trek: The Next Generation" and Ensign Hayes in "Star Trek: Generations"), a screenwriter and a producer, works passionately to teach the art and craft of film making, script writing and acting to the overlooked segments of society such as at-risk youth, homeless people, and the incarcerated. He continues to work this summer with two groups of Southwest and Southeast young residents, ages 10 to 21, teaching them script writing, video camera use, movie acting, directing and editing, all in the JumpStart Media Projects located at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 600 M Streets, SW.

Mack concentrates on Dr. Howard Gardner's Multiple Intelligences theory as an educational basis, and uses the JumpStart Media Project to teach life skills to at-risk youth through media arts education.

Late last winter, the first group of Southwest youth to participate in the Jump Start Media Project, completed a film "Street Dreams" which evolved from the students' experience of life in Ward 6. "Street Dreams," premiered last April 25 to an enthusiastic response at the first ever Amnesty International Human Rights Art Festival in Silver Spring, Md.

The SWWR Collaborative (South Wash-



JumpStart facilitator Michael Mack.

ton/West of the River Family Strengthening Collaborative) sponsors a summer program based at St. Augustine's. Mack explained, "In the name of the JumpStart Media Project, I work with ten of their youth (ages 10 to 13) on Tuesdays and Thursdays. They are adapting the story "Cinderella" as their video. It will probably remain a work-in-progress due to scheduling."

Also under another JumpStart Media Project sponsored by St. Augustine's, Mack and his colleague Jim Pollock work with five youth (ages

12 to 21) on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. They come to the church from the Little Lights Urban Ministries in Southeast. "We have completed an outline for a film about a family struggling with drugs, financial problems, and faith issues. We have also completed most of the soundtrack and have begun filming scenes," Mack said.

According to Mack, the JumpStart Media Project is growing, reaching younger kids and including youth in Southeast.

The JumpStart Media Project received additional funding from the US Dream Academy to continue through the summer. These workshops end at the end of August. "People can donate to St. Augustine's with "JMP" or "JumpStart Media Project" on the memo line of their checks. Without additional funding, the future of the program is uncertain," Mack said. See www.jumpstartmediaproject.org.

The Southwest Chamber Music Players at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, Sixth Street & Maine Avenue SW

present

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John Turner, tenor, Bruce Crane, baritone

Emily Toll, cello; Boxwood Recorders

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Yoshiko Dart blows out the candles on cakes celebrating the ADA anniversary. Photo by Richard Westbrook.

mission 6D (ANC 6D), and Carolyn Mitchell, President of SWNA.

Thelma Jones served as host of the program. Several of the guest speakers are Southwest residents, including Richard Treanor, disability rights advocate, who was commissioned to create the painting of Justin Dart, Jr. for the Call Box. Another is Hilary Shelton, Director of the NAACP Washington Bureau. Yoshiko Dart cut the anniversary cake and led the singing of *Happy Birthday*.

Our new Southwest Safeway donated platters of fruits and sweets, along with ice and soda. Music was provided by Saleem Waters, and the ceremony was sign-interpreted by Anne Leahy.

An excellent videotape of the event was made and edited by Doug Galbi, who works in Southwest. Doug has compiled a ten-minute video and posted it on YouTube. You can watch it at www.youtube.com/watch?v=XA2WTbcnCEs

He has also made YouTube videos of past Southwest Call Box dedications. You can find these at www.youtube.com by searching on "southwest call box".

Special thanks to Lida Churchville and the SWNA History Task Force for planning and seeing the Call Box Project through to completion and planning this event.

Reality Check: The Fall of the Child Support System

By Essita Duncan

America's child support system is charging forward like an uncontrollable Mack truck at full speed, fueled by once happy parents filing claims against former mates. Now sour and often bitter from a break-up, these parents, with a newfound responsibility of having to raise their bundle of joy solo, are racing to the courts at alarming rates to decide issues of paternity, custody, visitation and financial responsibility.

Parents of all ages are filling the courthouses across this country, grappling with the challenges of parenting alone. While the personal relationship may have long ended, these parents are now embarking on a journey together in raising their children under two separate roofs that may be filled with a series of court visits, weekly exchanges, split holidays and garnishment of wages, if lucky.

Many, if not all, of us never envisioned

the joys of parenthood being reduced to multiple court battles marked by questions of the mother's chastity and the capacity to care and provide for one's child. However, if our free will continues to go unchecked, we, along with our children, are doomed for the same fate. One can't help but to ponder, whether practicing abstinence prior to marriage and fidelity within the marital relationship would cause our child support system to die a sudden death?

Think about it. Teenage pregnancy would cease to exist. Cohabitation and premarital sex would be a thing of the past and adultery would be foreign word. Sure our child support system would not disappear totally overnight, since many married couples divorce for reasons other than infidelity, but it would certainly slow it down.

This does not constitute legal advice and does not establish an attorney-client relationship. Essita Duncan is an attorney in private practice who can be contacted at eduncan@duncandefense.com.

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Spirituality

St. Augustine's End of Summer Fair

Sat., Sept. 11, 2010
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.



www.staugustinesdc.org

Neighborhood Religious Services

Galilee A.M.E. Church

Worshipping at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 600 M St. SW
(202) 258-6812

Rev. S. Isaiah Harvin
sisaiahharvin@yahoo.com

Sunday: 2 p.m.

Wednesday: Bible Study 7:30 p.m.

www.secondunionbaptistchurch.org
Rev. William Harrison, Pastor
secondunionbaptist@yahoo.com

Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School,
10:45 a.m. Worship

Wednesday: Noon Day Prayer, 3:30 p.m. Senior Bible Study (Greenleaf),
7:30 p.m. Prayer & Bible Study

Bethel Pentecostal Tabernacle of the Assemblies of God

601 St. SW
(202) 484-3184

Pastor Robert Carter
tizdtw@yahoo.com

Sunday: 10:45 a.m.; Friday: Prayer and Bible Study: 8 p.m.

St. Dominic Catholic Parish

603 E St. SW
(202) 554-7863
Father Gregory Salomone, O.P.,
fathergreg@speakeeasy.net
Denise Marshall, Parish Receptionist & Admin. Asst., receptionist@st-dominic-church.org

Saturday: 5:15 p.m. (Vigil of Sunday)

Sunday: 8 a.m., 10:45 a.m., 12:15 p.m. (Spanish), and 5:15 p.m.

Weekdays: 8 a.m. and 12:10 p.m. in the Church (There are no Masses on federal holidays)

Reconciliation: Monday – Friday 11:55 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.
Saturday 4:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Carron Baptist Church

1354 First St., SW
(202) 484-3172

Pastor Lester W. Allen

Sunday: 11 a.m.

Tuesday: Noon Day Prayer, 7:30 p.m. Bible Study

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church

14 M St. SE
(202) 488-1354

Fr. Richard Gaucanyco

Sunday: 8 a.m.

Mon., Tues., Thur., Fri.: 12:10 p.m.

Friendship Baptist Church

900 Delaware Ave. SW
(202) 488-7417

Rev. Dr. J. Michael Little, Pastor
Rachel McNeal, Admin. Asst.
crachel522@aol.com

Sunday: 9:30 A.M, Sunday School;
11 a.m. Morning Worship

Tuesday: 7 p.m. Prayer Service and Bible Study

Riverside Baptist Church

Seventh St. and Maine Avenue SW
(202) 554-4330

Pastor Michael Bledsoe,
pstrbled@comcast.net

Sunday: 10 a.m. with Bible Study at 9 a.m.

St. Matthew's Baptist Church

1105 New Jersey Ave. SE
(202) 488-7298

Rev. Dr. Maxwell M. Washington, Pastor
Gwendolyn Coleman, Office Asst.
praisethelord1820@yahoo.com

Sunday: 8 a.m. Sunday School;
9:05 a.m. Worship Service

Tuesday: 7 p.m. Prayer Meeting & Bible Study

St. Augustine's Episcopal Church

600 M St. SW
(202) 554-3222

Rev. Martha Clark
marthakclark@yahoo.com

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday: 6:30 p.m. Evening Prayer

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

Worshiping at First Trinity Lutheran Church, 501 Fourth St. NW at Judiciary Square

(410) 375-5053 (cell)
Pastor Phillip Huber
pchuber@hughes.net

Sunday: 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday: 6:45 p.m. Sing & Rejoice

Thursday: 6 p.m.: Bread and Soup, 6:45 p.m. Evening Prayer

Christ United Methodist Church

900 Fourth St. SW
(202) 554-9117

Rev. Adrienne Terry
ChristUMCDC@yahoo.com

Sunday: 10 a.m.

Thursday: 12 noon & 6:30 p.m., Bible Study

Westminster Presbyterian Church

400 I St. SW
(202) 484-7700

Co-Pastors: Rev. Ruth Hamilton and Brian Hamilton
Sunny Simmons, Project Admin.
sunny@westminsterdc.org

Sunday: 11 a.m. with choir practice at 9 a.m.

St. Augustine's End of Summer Fair

Sat., Sept. 11, 2010
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

"SAIL INTO FALL"

www.staugustinesdc.org

End of Summer Fair Emphasizes Family Fun and Outreach

By Elaine Graves

Emphasizing a family-friendly fun fair, St. Augustine's Episcopal Church's annual fair is set for Saturday, September 11, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. The End of Summer Fair with its theme of "Sail into Fall" goes on, rain or shine, around the grounds and in the sanctuary of the church at 600 M Street, SW, the corner of Sixth and M Streets, SW.

The End of Summer Fair will raise funds for the congregation's Southwest outreach ministries, particularly children, youth and senior programs, according to the Rev. Martha Clark, Priest-in-Charge of St. Augustine's.

As in past years, the "Sail into Fall" fair will feature a variety of musicians, the ever-popular children's activities, senior bingo and lunch, fish fry sandwiches, hot dogs, baked goods, barbecue by Mr. Buchanan, raffle prizes, gently used clothing, books and CDs, plus a moon bounce. Raheem Rasta, a flutist from The Universal Messengers of Music band, will play.

Other vendors will sell a variety of items, arts and crafts and provide information on neighborhood organizations and services.

Raffle prize tickets for \$5.00 include a first prize of two tickets with parking for the Novem-

ber 15 football game between the Redskins and the Philadelphia Eagles. Second prize is \$250 in cash and the third prize is two tickets for an Odyssey Potomac River cruise. Raffle prize drawings are planned throughout the day, according to the fair's Coordinator Virginia Mathis.

For further information about reserving vendor space or for questions about the fair, contact Elaine Graves, egraves@hers.com or call 202-863-0256. To buy raffle tickets, contact Virginia Mathis at 703-820-4483.

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Education and Schools

Amidon- Bowen Enters New Phase

By Meg Brinkman

Our local Elementary School will undergo a series of changes in the 2010-2011 school year designed to enhance the learning environment for every student and to improve the partnership between parent and school.

Mrs. Lashanté Knight recently joined the Amidon-Bowen family as Principal. She is a native Washingtonian who was born and raised in the heart of Southeast. As a graduate from Banneker Academic High School in Northwest Washington, Mrs. Knight has a fondness and passion to see the students of D.C. become successful. Her academic preparedness comes in the form of a B.S. in Elementary Education and a M.S. in Educational Leadership and Supervision. She has a decade of experience teaching students in grades three through eight and working at the central office level in three different school districts: District of Columbia Public Schools, Montgomery County Public Schools, and Wake County Public School System, North Carolina, supporting the work of teachers, principals, and parents.

Principal Knight and the dedicated Restructuring Team at Amidon-Bowen have examined every aspect of the school's environment with the goal of maximizing the learning experience. A Central Office support team will be working with the Amidon-Bowen faculty and staff every step of the way.

Expect to hear new terms such as "Targeted Student Support", "Early and Ongoing Parent Involvement", "School Advisory Board", and "Paced Interim Assessments", which all add up to a very careful and continuing support for every student as they move through the appropriate standards for their grade level.

Each year, every school sets major goals for emphasis. Amidon-Bowen's first goal will be to strive for student achievement in Reading and Math as reflected on the DC CAS tests given to students in the spring.

In order to reach this kind of achievement in academic



Amidon-Bowen's new principal, LaShanté Knight. Photo by Meg Brinkman.

goals, it is necessary to make Amidon-Bowen the kind of learning environment that will make it possible. This encompasses everything from the way children interact on the playground to a structured discipline procedure that stresses getting the child to respond to interventions which aim to bring the child

back into the learning environment.

Recognizing that a firm foundation is the basis of every structure, a major emphasis this year will be the Pre-K through Second Grade program at Amidon Bowen. Knowledge of child development and best instructional practices are critical to ready these for the more rigorous curriculum demands which come with the transition to Third grade.

The Restructuring Team at Amidon-Bowen recognizes that they have an important partner in the parent. Communication is a necessary tool in the management of a school. A two-way opportunity for parents and teachers to celebrate the accomplishments of each student and to understand the goals they are striving to accomplish is a necessary part of this process. Activities are planned to include parents in the in their children's learning experience and to keep lines of communication open.

The Amidon-Bowen PTA will continue to increase its reach to every parent and to underscore the efforts to improve communication.

2010-2011 Morning Hours at Amidon-Bowen

Amidon- Bowen will continue the popular **early morning program starting at 7:00 AM** for children who must arrive at school before **the regular starting time of 8:15 AM**. Parents are to register their children for this program.

Call the school office (202-724-4867) for details. Breakfast will be served to all children in their classrooms.

Good Eats Make Good Students

By Meg Brinkman

"Children who eat nutritious meals are not only healthier, they are also better learners," stated Mayor Adrian M. Fenty. "This administration is committed to providing healthy food in schools as one of the crucial supports needed for children to achieve at the highest levels."

Amidon-Bowen is one of 14 schools chosen to participate in dramatically

improved school meals. They will be served "Fresh Portable Meals" produced by Revolution Foods and taste tested by students. The vendor is required to purchase 20% of the foods locally and to transform them into meals that will encourage students to try healthy foods. The program is expected to cost no more than in previous years. The benefits are in the improved wellness of students and their increased knowledge of how to include wholesome foods in their diet.

New Leadership For Jefferson Middle School

By Meg Brinkman

Ms Patricia Pride has been appointed by Chancellor Michelle Ree as Interim Principal of Jefferson Middle School for the 2010-211 school year. Because the change in leadership came so soon before the beginning of school, the usual panel interviews involving community members were not conducted. Ms Ree states in her letter dated August 4, "I have appointed Ms. Patricia Pride to lead as interim principal of Jefferson, basing my decision on your input regarding what you want for the school moving forward, as well

as the research on the experience and skills linked to school success."

Ms. Pride has had a dynamic and diverse career in education, working directly with students in special education, advanced placement and general education as a science teacher, history teacher and dean of students before moving into administration as assistant principal at Roosevelt Senior High School. She has worked in both suburban and urban environments and in several school districts across the nation. Ms. Pride holds a bachelor's degree in Education and a master's degree in Education Administration.

Mrs. Thurgood Marshall Meets President Barack Obama

When Mrs. Thurgood "Cissy" Marshall regretted missing President Obama's Inauguration in January 2008, she realized that she was not only missing a great opportunity to meet the president but also the opportunity of getting that proverbial kiss on the cheek from a fellow Hawaiian. The temperature was bone-chilling that day and she was a bit under the weather so she did what millions of others did and watched the inauguration on TV while dreaming about her chance to meet President Obama one day soon. After all, President Obama is standing on the shoulders of

her late husband Justice Thurgood Marshall, the first African American Supreme Court Justice who lived in Southwest and worshipped at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church where Cissy Marshall still worships.

Thanks to the help of longtime friend Thelma Jones and Ian Solomon, US Executive Director to the World Bank and an Obama appointee, Marshall's dream came true in almost a blink of an eye on Monday, July 18, just two days before her 82nd birthday. She and youngest son John enjoyed an approximately 15 minute courtesy call with President Obama. "This was one of

the best birthday presents I've ever had", said Marshall with a big smile and sparkles in her eyes. "I knew I would meet him one day but I didn't expect it to happen so quickly and to be the only two people present at the meeting. It was amazing!"

Marshall recounts a special moment with delight and precision. "He (President Obama) greeted us in the Oval Office and then said: "Come with me, I'd like to show you something." Hanging on the wall in his private office was a huge oil portrait of Thurgood Marshall. "I was pleasantly surprised and pleased to see

the portrait and so was my son John." President Obama told me that the portrait hung in his Senate Office every day when he was on Capitol Hill as a Senator from Illinois. The meeting of the president and seeing her husband's picture was just two of the day's highlights. As she and John were bidding farewell to the President, he leaned over and gently kissed Cissy on the cheek. That did it! The proverbial kiss was another highlight of that special day that she'll always remember.

(Thelma Jones contributed to this article.)

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Melissa ROHAN 
DC State Board of Education Ward 6

Photo by Robert E. Hyman

Melissa Rohan has lived in Ward 6 for nearly 10 years, and her family currently resides in Southwest Waterfront. You can learn more about Melissa at www.melissarohan.com or email her at info@melissarohan.com.

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